



ARIZONA AGRI-WEEKLY

For Week Ending January 2, 2000

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CONDITIONS WORSEN WITH LACK OF RAIN DRY WEATHER AFFECTING RANGE AND PASTURE

Pasture conditions declined throughout the state last month with the continued lack of rain. Pastures throughout the state were reported in fair to good condition. Livestock were reported in fair to good condition with ranchers reporting heavy and widespread supplemental feeding. Most ranchers reported a continued lack of rain for the month of December. Stock water was reported as short to adequate while soil moisture was reported as short. Insect damage was widely reported as none to light.

Overall, Northern grazing conditions were reported as fair to good during December, but ranchers reported very dry pastures. High and Mid level elevation pastures were reported in fair to good condition while low level pastures were reported in good to excellent condition. Livestock condition was fair to good, receiving heavy nutrient supplements. Stock water supplies were reported as adequate while soil moisture was reported as short. Insect damage was widely reported as none to light.

Central Arizona pasture conditions remained in fair to good condition at low elevation, and ranged from poor to good at mid and high elevations. Ranchers reported receiving no rain in October, November, or December. Pastures are very dry. Livestock conditions declined slightly, being reported as fair. Stock water and soil moisture were reported as short. Insect damage was widely reported as none to light.

Southern pasture conditions were fair to good at low and mid elevations while high elevations were reported as fair. Livestock conditions were fair to good with supplemental feeding reported for the month of December. Ranchers report the range is very dry. Stock water was reported as being short to adequate while soil moisture was reported as short. Insect damage was reported as none to light.

This year's cotton harvest is virtually complete. As of January 2, **cotton** harvested was reported as being 97 percent complete, compared to 98 percent last year and 99 percent for the 5-year average.

Alfalfa harvest activity drops off slightly from last week. As of January 2, **alfalfa** harvest was reported as 67 percent not being harvested, 14 percent light, 10 percent moderate, and 9 percent active. **Alfalfa** condition was reported as 7 percent poor, 24 percent fair,

64 percent good, and 5 percent excellent. Sheeping off continued to be reported as moderate to active.

Range and Pasture conditions were reported as very dry with heavy supplemental feeding necessary. Livestock were reported as being in fair to good condition. The continued lack of rain has reduced both stock water and soil moisture levels. Stock water was reported as short to adequate, while soil moisture conditions were reported as short. Insect damage was reported as light to none. Range and pasture conditions were reported as 1 percent very poor, 11 percent poor, 30 percent fair, 49 percent good, and 9 percent excellent.

Small grains planting only showed slight increases over last week and remains well behind normal. As of January 2, 32 percent of **Durum Wheat**, 34 percent of **Barley**, 30 percent of **Other Wheat**, and 27 percent of **Other Small Grains** were reported as being planted.

Last week, temperatures throughout the state remained above average. Temperatures ranged from 6 degrees above normal at Casa Grande and Grand Canyon to 1 degree below normal at Canyon De Chelly. The highest temperature of the week was 76 degrees at Casa Grande and Coolidge while the lowest reading was 8 degrees at Flagstaff. Precipitation was reported at five stations. Precipitation ranged from 0.44 inches at Grand Canyon to 0.01 inches at Payson.

Last week producers from central Arizona shipped a variety of vegetables including **bok choy, broccoli, dandelion, dill, endive, escarole, flowering kale, kale, kohlrabi, mixed greens, napa, parsley, spinach, and swiss chard**. Eastern Arizona producers shipped **hot house tomatoes**. Producers in western Arizona also shipped a wide variety of vegetables including **bok choy, broccoli, broccoflower, broccolini, cabbage, cauliflower, celery, cilantro, endive, escarole, frisee, kale, mixed greens, napa, parsley, radicchio, salad savoy, spinach, and swiss chard**. Western **lettuce** and **salad/salad mixes** shipments included **boston, iceberg, leaf, romaine** and **specialty leaf**.

Central Arizona citrus producers harvested **lemons, navels, grapefruit, and fairchild tangerines**. Western citrus producers harvested **grapefruit** and **lemons** last week.

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**TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION DATA
 FOR THE WEEK DECEMBER 26, 1999-JANUARY 1, 2000**

Station	Temperatures				Precipitation 2/		
	Avg.	Dep. 1/	High	Low	Past Week	Jan. 1 to Date	Normal to Date
Canyon De Chelly	30	-1	51	10	0.04	7.64	9.63
Casa Grande	51	6	76	37	0.00	3/	9.25
Coolidge	50	2	76	3/	0.00	7.71	9.05
Douglas	45	5	69	21	0.00	9.12	13.42
Flagstaff	28	3	56	8	0.21	15.96	22.80
Gila Bend	53	4	73	35	0.00	6.34	6.86
Grand Canyon	28	6	55	15	0.44	21.38	15.83
Kingman	43	0	61	24	0.00	5.28	9.79
Parker	52	2	74	35	0.00	2.15	4.50
Payson	37	5	65	22	0.01	14.79	22.08
Phoenix	53	5	73	43	0.00	6.62	7.66
Prescott Airport	38	0	59	19	0.03	13.02	13.31
Safford Ag Center	43	5	68	25	0.00	7.43	9.68
Tucson	51	5	71	42	0.00	9.56	12.00
Willcox	42	2	68	23	0.00	14.82	12.92
Winslow	31	2	55	10	0.00	7.31	8.04
Yuma	55	4	73	42	0.00	1.93	3.17

1/ Departure of temperature for reporting period from average temperature for that week.

2/ Daily precipitation totals 5 a.m. to 5 a.m. instead of midnight to midnight. Periods of record used in computing "average to date" for precipitation and "departure" for average temperatures may be obtained from National Weather Service, Phoenix.

3/ Not available.